

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:RRSTRAND:GJB

APPROVED BY AF/C:APALMER

AF: MR. FOLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040372

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CU, ECIN, CG, US

SUBJECT: BULA VISIT

REF: KINSHASA 1076

1. WHILE INVITING BULA TO WASHINGTON FOLLOWING THE MEETING IN CUBA MIGHT HELP TO SOFTEN HIM UP, BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HARD TO COMPETE WITH THE HEADY NAC ATMOSPHERE AND LIKELY RED-CARPET TREATMENT OF THE HAVANA VISIT. IF VISIT HERE WERE TO SEEM PALE BY COMPARISON, EFFECT COULD BE OPPOSITE OF THAT HOPED FOR. AT SAME TIME, WE QUESTION SENSE DOING ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT BOOST BULA'S STOCK AT HOME OR PUT HIM IN POSITION TO GLOAT THAT THE WAY TO GET SOMETHING FROM US IS TO ACT TOUGH.

2. WE ALSO DOUBT WHETHER THERE IS ENOUGH OF SUBSTANCE WHICH COULD PROFITABLY BE DISCUSSED EITHER TO SATISFY BULA OR TO WARRANT EXPENDITURE OF SECRETARY'S TIME. WHILE ZAIRE'S FINANCIAL SITUATION IS CRITICAL AND US INTERESTS ARE DEEPLY INVOLVED, WE DOUBT THAT RAISING THE MATTER WITH BULA WOULD BE EITHER USEFUL OR WELL RECEIVED. ON ANGOLA
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AND CABINDA, WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO GIVE MOBUTU THE KIND
OF SUPPORT HE WOULD LIKE AND FOR WHICH BULA WOULD PROBABLY
AGAIN ASK. DISCUSSION OF MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP

WOULD BE PREMATURE WITH MTAT STILL WORKING ON ITS REPORT.
AND WITH TOUGH AND ANTAGONISTIC CHARACTER LIKE BULA,
FLUSH WITH THE RHETORIC OF THE NAC MEETING, DISCUSSION OF
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES OR SOUTHERN AFRICA WOULD
RISK BEING RECRIMINATORY REHASH OF THE GREAT DIFFERENCES
IN OUR POINTS OF VIEW.

3. WHILE WE BELIEVE, ON BALANCE, THAT INVITATION WOULD NOT
BE ADVISABLE, EMBASSY'S FURTHER COMMENTS ARE WELCOME. KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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